# MINUTES

OF THE

# MAYO BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

CONVENED AT

## MATRIMONY MEETING HOUSE,

Rockingham County, N, C.

ON THE 16th DAY OF MAY, 1840, AND DAYS FOLLOWING:

LIKEWISE,

## MINUTES OF THE SAME ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT

BUFFALOW MEETING HOUSE,

Stokes County, N. C.

ON THE 17th DAY OF OCTOBER, 1840, AND DAYS FOLLOWING.

SWAIM & SHERWOOD, PRINTERS,
Greensborough, N. C.
1840.

# MINUTES.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, }
Rockingham County. }

*Matrimony Meeting House, May* 16, 1840.

1. The Association convened this day at 12 o'clock. Elder John Wilson preached the introductory sermon from Jeremiah, 25 and 28 verses, "He that hath my word," &c.

2. Letters from 9 Churches were read, and Messengers' names enrolled.

| CHURCHES. | MESSENGERS' NAMES. |
|---|---|
| Clear Spring, | Francis Fulton, *Robt. W. Hill, *Zach. Glidewell. |
| Matrimony, | Geo. W. McNeely, James Garrett, Geo. K. Jones. |
| Graham's, | Jesse Fry, *A. White, Jun. |
| Snow Creek, | Berry Sisk; Lewis Shelton. |
| Cascade, | Pryor Reynolds, Thos. Murphey, Hardin Nance. |
| Mill Creek, | John France, James Hill, Gabriel Critz. |
| ⋈ Roads, | Henry Tatum, Nathan Massey, Joel Fagg. |
| Sardis, | John Wilson, William Fewel, Thomas Smith. |
| State Line, | Saml. Flipping, *Isaac Barnett, Jonah Flipping. |

3. Elders John Conner and George W. Conner, from New River, Elders Silas Minter and Othniel Minter, and Brethren Abner Stutts and Howard G. Hicks, from Pig River, Elder John Jones, from Fisher's River Associations being present, gave evidence of their appointments as Correspondents, and took their seats with us.

4. Then chose Elders John Conner, Silas Minter and John Wilson, with the Moderator and Clerk, a committee of arrangements.

5. Then chose Elders John Conner, Silas Minter and Henry Tatum to preach on the Lord's day—worship to commence at 10 o'clock. Then adjourned till Monday 9 o'clock.

The brethren appointed to preach on the Lord's day met a large congregation. Elder Silas Minter preached from 2 Timothy, 1st ch. and 8th verse, "Be not therefore ashamed of the testimony," &c. Elder John Conner, from Romans 9th ch. and 33d verse, "As it is written," &c., and Elder Tatum, from Songs of Solomon, 2nd ch. and 14th verse, "O my dove," &c. We hope the labors of the day will be attended with a divine blessing.

Monday 18th. Met pursuant to adjournment. After prayer by the Moderator, proceeded to call over the names of the Messengers. Read the Rules of Decorum, Then called on the committee of ar-

*Absent members.

rangements whose report was received and the committee discharged.

6. Brethren who were appointed to correspond with sister Associations reported satisfactorily and were discharged.

7. Brethren who were appointed a Presbytery to attend to the request of the Arm of Sardis Church at Buffalow, reported that they attended and complied with their request by constituting them into a Church, and also ordained Joel Hawkins and Washington Ames to the office of Deacons, and on petition that Church was received into our body, the following Delegates being present, to wit: Franklin James and Anderson Tucker.

8. Then called on the committee who were appointed to attend at Good Will Church, who reported that they attended and the Church made acknowledgments which are satisfactory to this Association.

9. Then appointed Elder Henry Tatum to write the next circular letter.

10. Then attended to the request of Snow Creek Church, and appointed Elders John Wilson and George W. McNeely as a Presbytery.

11. Then agreed that our next Association be held at Buffalow Meeting House in Stokes County N. C., to commence on Saturday before the 5th Lord's day in October next—Elder Henry Tatum to preach the introductory sermon, and in case of failure Elder George W. McNeely.

Then adjourned by prayer.

HENRY TATUM, Moderator.

Wm. Fewel, Clerk,

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
STOKES COUNTY.

*Buffalow Meeting House, October 17th*, 1840.

1. The Association convened this day at 12 o'clock. Elder George W. McNeely preached the introductory sermon from Psalms 126 and 3 verse: "The Lord hath done great things for us," &c.

2. Letters from ten churches, were read, and messengers' names enrolled.

| CHURCHES. | MESSENGERS. | Rec'd by Exp.: | Rec'd by letter | Restored : : : | Dismissed : : | Excluded : : : | Deceased : : : | Total : : : : : : | Contributions : |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | $ |
| SnowCreek, | Berry Sisk, Lewis Shelton, Jonas Harvey, | | 1 | | 2 | 3 | 1 | 53 | 1 32½ |
| Buffalow, | Joel Hawkins, Franklin James, William Hollinsworth, - - - | | | | | | | 27 | 1 00 |
| State Line, | Samuel Flipping, Isam Barnett, *Jonah Flipping, - - - - | | 1 | | 1 | 2 | | 89 | 2 50 |
| Cascade, | Pryor Reynolds, *Tho's Murphey, *B. Law, | 8 | 1 | | 5 | - | 1 | 108 | 2 21 |
| Matrimony, | G. W. McNeely James Garrett, Azariah Doss, | 3 | 2 | | | | | 33 | 1 50 |
| Mill Creek, | John France, John W. Ivy, Gabriel Critz, | 1 | | | | | | 28 | 75 |
| Graham's, | Jesse Fry, *L. G. Hayden, *A. White, Jr. | | | | | 1 | | 38 | 1 00 |
| Sardis, | John Wilson, William Fewel, Charles Tate, | | 3 | | | | | 55 | 1 57½ |
| ClearSpring | Francis Fulton, David Burton, Zachariah Glidewell, - - | | | | | | | 17 | 1 27½ |
| ✕ Roads, | Henry Tatum, John Roberts, Tho's Godsey, | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 71 | 2 00 |
| | | | | | | | | | 15 13½ |

*Absent.

3 Elders John Conner, Joshua Adams, and Brother James Joyce from New River; Elders John Jones and Henry Steele, from Fisher's River; Elders Lewis Snider and Brethren J. Young and J. Williams, from Abbotts Creek; Elder J. D. Chandler, from Country Line; Elders Silas Minter, Arthur W. Eaves, and Brother Abner Stutts from Pig River Association being present, gave satisfactory evidence of their appointments as Correspondents and took their seats with us.

4. Then chose Elders John Conner, Joshua Adams and George W. M'Neely with the Moderator and Clerk a Committee of arrangements.

5. Then chose Elders Eaves, Adams and Tatum to preach on the Lord's day—worship to commence at 10 o'clock.

6. Then appointed Brethren Samuel Flipping and Pryor Reynolds, a Committee of Finance.

Then adjourned till Monday 9 o'clock.

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The Brethren appointed to preach on the Lord's day met a large concourse of people. Elder Eaves preached from the 1st Epistle of John 5th chapter 1st verse: "Behold what manner of love," &c. Elder Adams from Mathew 20th chapter, and latter clause of the 6th verse: "Why stand ye here idle all the day." Elder Tatum from Paul to the Hebrews 2nd chapter and first part of the 3d verse: "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation." We believe the Gospel was preached in its purity and we hope the happy effects of the same will be realized by the congregation.

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*Monday* 19*th.*---Met pursuant to adjournment. After prayer by the Moderater, proceeded to call over the names of the Messengers, read the Rules of Decorum. Then called on the Committee of arrangements whose report was received and the Committee discharged.

7. Brethren who were appointed to attend sister Associations reported satisfactorily and were discharged.

8. Then called on the Presbytery appointed to attend at Snow Creek Church who reported that they found the Brethren Samuel Shackleford and Lewis Shelton who were set aside, qualified and ordained them to the office of Deacon.

9. Then attended to the request of Clear Spring Church and appointed Elders John Wilson and Henry Tatum, a Presbytery to attend said Church.

10. Then attended to the request of the ⋈ Road Church and ap-

pointed Elders Henry Tatum, George W. M'Neely and John Wilson a Presbytery to attend said Church.

11. Then called for the circular letter which was read and received and Elder George W. M'Neely appointed to prepare the next.

12. Then called on the Committee of Finance to report, who reported they had received the sum of - - - $15 62 1-2
The Clerk reported the further sum in his hands of 88 3-4

$16 51 1-4

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| To priniting 500 copies of Minutes | $10 51 1-4 | |
| " Clerk's fees - - - - | 6 00 | |
| | | $16 51 1-4 |

13. Then agreed to appoint Correspondents to the following Associations to wit: Elders George W. M'Neely, John Wilson, Henry Tatum and Brethren Samuel Flipping, Isam Barnett, William Fewel and James Garrett, to New River; Elders Geo. W M'Neely, Henry Tatum, and Brethren John Roberts and Pryor Reynolds, to Country Line; Elders Geo. W. M'Neely, Henry Tatum and Brother Andrew White, Jr. to Abbotts Creek Union; Elder Geo. W. M'Neely and Brother James Garrett to Pig River; Elders Henry Tatum, Geo. W. M'Neely, John Wilson and Brethren John Roberts and Samuel Flipping, to Fishers' River.

14. Then agreed that the next Association be held at Sardis Church, in Rockingham county, to commence on Saturday before the 3d Sunday in May next. Elder Henry Tatum to preach the introductory sermon, and in case of failure Elder Geo. W. M'Neely.

15. Then resolved that in future our Fall Association commence on the Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October.

16. *Resolved*, That we tender our thanks to the neighborhood for their hospitality to us during the Association.

Then adjourned. HENRY TATUM, *Moderator*.

Wm. Fewel, *Clerk*.

# CIRCULAR LETTER.

Very Dear Brethren in Christ Jesus, grace, mercy and peace be multiplied unto you:

As it has been our custom in times past to address you annually by a circular, we once more address you in that way. And as you have been addressed on many subjects, we feel impressed at this time to call your attention to the important subject of brotherly love. Love is a theme of the Gospel; for we find that love implies, or means, regard with tenderness of affection. Hence, we find the glad tidings sang by the angelic host, that saluted the ears of the shepherds by night, was, Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will towards men---Luke, II. 14; (regard or tenderness of affection,) which was fulfilled when Jesus made his appearance in the world. For it is declared in the Gospel that God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life---John, III, 16. Here then we see the love of God manifest, in that, while we were sinners Christ died for the ungodly. Hence the apostle declares, if God so loved us, we ought to love one another. And again, Paul says, Let brotherly love continue.

Dear brethren if we are the children of God we are nearly related to one another; being begat again to a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; begat by the same Spirit---you hath he quickened, &c.; for if we be Christ's then we are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise; and Joseph, who was a tpye of Christ, said, Seeing ye are brethren, see that ye fall not out by the way.

What then is brotherly love? Regard with tenderness of affection. Dear brethren, we declare unto you that we think we see a want of that regard and tenderness of affection among us; for when brotherly love abounds, we see brethren delight in one another's company and conversation, and no small thing will keep them at home on their church meeting days or other times of public worship; we see them delight in associating together—conversing sweetly together. David the servant of God once said, We went to the house of God and took sweet counsel together. We read of faith that works by love. We are commanded to love without dissimulation, to abhor that which is evil, to cleave to that which is good. Seeing then, brethren, we have been called unto liberty, use not liberty as an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. Now the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentlenesss, goodness, faith; against such there is no law.

Again: when brotherly love abounds, regard with tenderness of

affection is made manifest, and that saying of our blessed Lord is confirmed, By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, when you have love one towards another. Brotherly love causes us to feel for each other and sympathise for each other, pray for each other; brotherly love makes us watch over each other for good and not for evil. When brotherly love abounds devotion is delightful, the church of God a palace, communion sweet. We then can set together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus; yea, says one, I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. While brotherly love abounds we rejoice with them that do rejoice, and mourn with them that mourn; each one feels his brother's care.

The beloved apostle says, Beloved let us love one another, for love is of God; he that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is love. Again, If we love one another God dwelleth in us. And again, If any man say he love God and hateth his brother, he is a liar, for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God loveth his brother also. Dear brethren, examine yourselves and see, examine abroad and see whether you find any lack of brotherly love. The lack of brotherly love causes the seats of so many to be vacant on church meeting days and other days of public worship; duty becomes burdensome, our feelings dull---indifference about brethren---carelessness about attending divine worship. Brethren, these things ought not so to be.

The word of God tells us that because iniquity shall abound the love of many shall wax cold. Doth iniquity abound? have we become cold? do we not care for these things? are we not giving the opposers of the religion of Christ cause to triumph, and the enemy cause to rejoice?

Brethren, let us say as David the servant of God once said, Rejoice not against me, O, mine enemy; though I fall yet shall I rise again. Is there not a cause? Let us search and see. Dear brethren, let us not be content; let us unite in prayer for one another, and for love to increase and abound, and God may visit us once more in smiles, warm our feelings, unite our hearts more and more in love, and enable us to crucify the old man with his deeds, and put the aliens to flight; and may we feel and be enabled so to act that our children and all that behold us may say, behold! how these Christians love!

May the grace and love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit, be felt and enjoyed by you all, and an increase of love be manifested, is our prayer, for Christ's sake. Amen.